

REMARKS

Election is herein made *with traverse* as to the method associated with the designated Group II claims, i.e., claims 32-37. There must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required (see MPEP § 803.02, § 806.04(a) - § 806.04(i), § 808.01(a), and § 808.02) and a demonstration of the serious burden must be shown. The Group II claims are a species of possible manufacturing methods that are sufficiently linked with respect to the Group I claims and, as such, it would be relatively easy to search the method claims of Group II in connection with the Group I claims without placing an additional undue burden on the examiner.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the election/restriction requirement be expanded to permit the election of both the Group I and Group II claims in the instant examination.

Applicant believes that this response fully addresses the restriction/election requirements associated with the Sep. 4, 2007 Office Action. This response/election is being timely submitted prior to the Oct. 4, 2007 shortened statutory period deadline. As such, no extension of time is necessary.

Examination of the elected claims on the merits is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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